



**New Mexico Environment Department
Drinking Water Bureau**

The New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) Drinking Water Bureau has primacy to implement and enforce the requirements of the Safe Drinking Water Act and the New Mexico Drinking Water Regulations. The mission of the Drinking Water Bureau is to *preserve, protect, and improve New Mexico's drinking water quality for present and future generations.*

The following tables summarize the sequence of events and the actions taken by NMED in response to the Morningstar complaints.

Morningstar Water Supply System Summary	
May 22, 2016-present	NMED received numerous customer complaints regarding concerns about the water quality of the Morningstar Water System water as well as complaints regarding the management of the system; NMED and Public Regulation Commission coordinated agency responses to customers
May 24, 2016	Animas Valley (AV) Water informed NMED that a valve malfunction caused backwash water to enter the distribution system
May 25, 2016	NMED recommended that AV Water issue a precautionary boil water advisory due to the potential contamination from the backwash water AND NMED instructed AV Water to collect microbiological samples from various locations throughout the distribution system of Morningstar Water Supply System
May 26, 2016	NMED conducted a technical assistance site visit
May 27, 2016	NMED collected samples from distribution
May 31, 2016	NMED reviewed sample results which were all negative for microbiological organisms; informed AV Water they could lift precautionary advisory
June 1, 2016	Precautionary Boil Water Advisory lifted
June 2, 2016	NMED conducted site inspection and identified 29 significant deficiencies; turbidity* data collected during inspection indicated water being served was out of compliance, therefore NMED advised AV Water that a Boil Water Advisory was again necessary
June 3, 2015	NMED issued Boil Water Advisory on behalf of AV Water; instructed AV Water to notify customers
June 8, 2016	NMED conducted site visit
June 15, 2016	NMED conducted site visit
June 16, 2016	San Juan County issued Emergency Declaration
June 17, 2016	NMED Secretary Ryan Flynn issued Emergency Order #1 to ensure progress was being made to resolve the water quality issues and to temporarily exempt AV Water from specific regulatory requirements to facilitate a quick resolution, with regulatory requirements to be addressed immediately upon completion of constructing a connection to the Farmington Water System
June 22, 2016	NMED conducted site visit
June 24, 2016	NMED Secretary Ryan Flynn issued Emergency Order #2 to ensure progress was being made timely and appropriately to resolve issue. This order mandates 12 actions including identification and repair of distribution system deficiencies, development of water conservation measures with public notice and daily written progress reports to NMED
June 29, 2016	NMED conducted site visit
Current Status	AV Water is in process of connecting to Farmington Water System on a permanent basis; connection must be completed no later than July 15, 2016

Harvest Gold Subdivision Summary	
June 2, 2016	NMED conducted site inspection and identified 21 significant deficiencies; turbidity data collected during inspection indicated water was out of compliance; turbidity equipment not functional during site inspection therefore NMED advised AV Water that a Boil Water Advisory was required until they are able to monitor turbidity levels and ensure water quality meets compliance requirements
June 3, 2015	NMED issued Boil Water Advisory; instructed AV Water to notify customers
Current Status	NMED waiting for notification and supporting documentation that equipment is fully functional and turbidity levels meet compliance requirements

*Why is Turbidity an issue? Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of water. It is used to indicate water quality and filtration effectiveness (such as whether disease-causing organisms are present). Higher turbidity levels are often associated with higher levels of disease-causing microorganisms such as viruses, parasites and some bacteria. These organisms can cause symptoms such as nausea, cramps, diarrhea, and associated headaches.

More information on the NMED Drinking Water Bureau, copies of the Emergency Orders and other useful information can be found at our webpage: <https://www.env.nm.gov/dwb/index.htm>